

Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Bellingham, WA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Bellingham was selected to receive an assessment grant. Bellingham has a population of approximately 67,000. Since the 1980s, city plans have called for redevelopment of Little Squalicum Park, including construction of trails and park facilities, realignment of Little Squalicum Creek inside the park, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat. Local, state, and federal funds have been budgeted for this purpose, but plans were put on hold because of concerns that the creek and adjacent areas may be contaminated by hazardous substances. The city will continue to rely on assistance from community organizations to support the project and has developed a community participation plan to ensure active and



Assessment Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Bellingham for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to investigate potential environmental contamination in the Little Squalicum Creek Park area. The primary concern is contamination from creosote and pentachlorophenol (PCP), both of which may be used by wood-treatment facilities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields/

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team 206-553-2100

www.epa.gov/r10/earth

Click on "Superfund," scroll down and click on "Brownfields."

Grant Recipient: City of Bellingham, WA 360-676-6880

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Bellingham received brownfields funding for an assessment grant.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

continuous community involvement in the assessment program and in any additional cleanup, habitat restoration, and park redevelopment efforts.